

Greater Binghamton Economic Development NEWSLETTER

Partnering for a Better Greater Binghamton

Winter 2010

Despite Tough Times, Greater Binghamton Experiences Key Economic Development Successes in 2009

We celebrated two key regional projects last fall. Good Shepherd Village in Endwell, a fee-for-service and continuing care retirement community had its grand opening. This facility will employ more than 100 people with an estimated payroll of more than \$3 million. The projected economic impact is more than \$160 million dollars over the next 30 years. Impress, a metal can manufacturer, broke ground on a more than \$30 million dollar facility in the Broome Corporate Park in Conklin. This facility will likely employ more than 160 people over the next five years. It is projected to open in the fall of 2010.

One of our key industry clusters is modeling and simulation. Ed Link created the industry in Binghamton in the early 20th Century. Over the past year, we have partnered with our modeling and simulation companies to promote the Link legacy and grow the local industry. We debuted a short video that starts with Ed Link and then describes the exciting work being done today within the industry. The video had a prominent position before more than 19,000 participants at the 2009 I/ITSEC in Orlando, Florida.

I/ITSEC is the largest gathering in the world of modeling and simulation professionals in the armed services, government and private sector. Our video played in a loop on 8 different screens around the show including the tour buses which transported people back and forth to their hotels. The video may be viewed at www.bcida.com

Our work with local modeling and simulation companies includes a brochure that was widely distributed at the I/ITSEC conference in 2008 and 2009. This piece produced in partnership with Riger Advertising of Binghamton highlights the partners in our modeling and simulation cluster including: Binghamton University, Broome Community College, Concurrent, D&R Technical Solutions, Diamond Visionics, L-3 Link Simulation & Training, Rockwell Collins, RPA Electronic Solutions, Sarnicola Simulation Systems, Simulation and Control Technologies, and Virtusphere. The brochure was judged superior by the Northeastern Economic Developers Association at its annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Continued on Page 2

Greater Binghamton Chamber's Seminar

GAS DRILLING IN BROOME COUNTY:

**An Economic Development and
Workforce Development Perspective
AND ECONOMIC FORECAST 2010:
"What's next in our Regional Economy?"**

Fifteen years ago, no one in the United States, had ever heard of the Barnett Shale – except maybe a few geologists. Today, it's the largest natural gas field in the United States, producing four billion cubic feet a day. It supports thousands of jobs and generates millions in tax revenue.

The Marcellus Shale formation that stretches across our area in New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia may prove to be even more abundant. By one calculation, the Marcellus field by itself has the potential to produce enough gas to meet the entire nation's needs for at least 14 years.

The Economic Development Committee of the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce is pleased to present a panel discussion that focuses on the future economic development and workforce development aspects of gas drilling in our area.

Join us on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at the Binghamton Regency Hotel from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. as we discuss this important topic from:

- A Natural Gas Industry Perspective from the American Petroleum Institute (API). API will outline how natural gas, including unconventional shale gas resources, is vital to our nation's energy future—fueling our economy, delivering heat and power to over 60 million U.S. homes, and providing our nation with a clean burning, domestic energy source.
- A Broome County Perspective with Joseph R. Sluzar, County Attorney and Darcy Fauci, Deputy County Executive. Joe and Darcy will present their findings on the "potential economic and fiscal impacts from natural gas production in Broome County."
- A Workforce Development Perspective with Terry Stark, Director, Broome-Tioga Workforce NY. Terry will explore our future workforce needs, including training and certification programs,

Continued on Page 5



Home to Innovation

Economic Development Successes in 2009 *Continued from Page 1*

Our modeling and simulation initiative is part of an ongoing and aggressive campaign promoting Binghamton's assets to senior executives across the United States. Last fall, we sponsored the grand opening luncheon for CoreNet in Las Vegas. CoreNet is the largest association of site selectors and corporate real estate executives in the world. More than 1,500 participants received an introduction to Binghamton's technology, easy access to East Coast markets, and high quality of life. Participants received two follow-up mailings that reinforced these core messages. We're hopeful that as the economy continues to improve in 2010, even more executives will consider Binghamton for their next project.

Last summer, Greater Binghamton and the BCIDA launched BinghamtonBiz on Twitter. Our feed is intended to promote Binghamton businesses to a global audience. We have attracted followers in small business, venture capital, and media communities from across the United States. Find us on the web at twitter.com/binghamtonbiz. BinghamtonBiz has a companion channel on YouTube where users may find interviews with regional business leaders, virtual tours of key properties, and recent national commercials.

In November, the Milken Institute released its 2009 Best Performing Cities. Greater Binghamton moved up 60 spots to number 65 from our 2008 ranking of 125. Despite a challenging global environment, we ranked highly for technology concentration as well as increases in high technology GDP over 2008. For a link to the overall rankings, visit www.bcida.com

STOC's "20 in Their Twenties" to be Announced Soon!

The Southern Tier Opportunity Coalition will be announcing the awardees of the third "20 in Their Twenties" class at its monthly Networking Café on Monday, February 8 at the McKinley in Endicott. The event was attended by 200 people last year and is open to the public, with refreshments provided and a cash bar.

The "20 in their Twenties" initiative celebrates the future and current leaders in our community while recognizing the accomplishment of young people throughout the Southern Tier. These young individuals express these ideals with their actions, through their academic excellence, community service, individual leadership, and professional achievement.

Nominations are now closed and in the hands of a panel of independent judges. Awardees will be announced during a gala reception starting at 5:00pm on Monday February 8 at the McKinley. For more information and to secure a complimentary reservation, contact Natalia Czabala, STOC's Administrative Assistant at 607-772-8863 ext 5, or nczabala@gmail.com.

Greater Binghamton Chamber Expands Buy Local Efforts

The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce is working to encourage Chamber member employees to take advantage of cost saving opportunities made available to them. The Chamber has long promoted a Member to Member Discount program to



strengthen our local business community. As part of this effort, the Chamber prints and distributes thousands of "Member To Member Discount Cards" through their membership for all employees to use. There are currently over 90 special offers in this program. For a current and complete listing of these offerings, please visit www.greaterbinghamtonchamber.com. Click on the member tab and look for the Member To Member discount.

Additionally, the Chamber will be launching an effort to drive additional retail sales through a "Buy Local" campaign. Window decals will be printed and distributed to chamber members in the Southern Tier to help shoppers identify member establishments. A Facebook page listing retail discounts will encourage employees to become fans to learn of the "latest deals" out there. To become a fan, click the link from the logo above on the Chamber's website. Social media offers a free avenue for members to promote their specials and the strength of the medium is growing daily. The committee strongly feels that this is a strong way to help engage our membership and all of their employees. Chamber member companies employ 45,000 people ~ that is a lot of buying power.

We want to keep as much economic activity as possible within our community and are hoping people will visit local businesses instead of traveling outside the area or shopping on-line.

Broome County Teams with Willow Run Foods to Reduce Emissions

Broome County Planning has partnered with Willow Run Foods to submit an application for \$517,000 from the US EPA National Clean Diesel Program. If funded, the application will enable Willow Run Foods to equip 55 tractor trailers with auxiliary power units (APU). The installation and use of these APU's by Willow Run will result in the reduction of 52 tons of nitrogen oxides, 1.22 tons of particulate matter, 2.2 tons of carbon dioxide and the savings of nearly 50,000 gallons of diesel fuel over their usable lifetime. APU's work by allowing trucks to be run off of the much smaller and more efficient auxiliary power engine rather than the tractor trailer engine during times when they traditionally would be idling. A decision on the grant is expected in February 2010.

Broome County Planning Tackles Brownfields, Code Enforcement & Green Technology

Brandywine Corridor Brownfield Opportunity Area Kicks Off

Broome County Planning secured a \$175,500 grant from New York State to prepare a Brownfield Opportunity Area plan for the Brandywine Corridor. This 137-acre swath of land in the heart of Binghamton is the gateway to the community. By preparing a Brownfield Opportunity Area plan for this area, we can focus public and private sector investment and help the community achieve its vision. We have hired Elan Planning and Design of Saratoga Springs, New York to coordinate this effort.

In November of 2009, we conducted our first public meeting for this important project. In advance of the meeting, the Planning Department staff mailed over 1,000 postcards to residents and property owners within the Brandywine Corridor and the surrounding neighborhood. The meeting was well-attended and resulted in many workable ideas for the redevelopment of this vital corridor.

Elan will be working on the plan over the course of 2010. Once finalized, the Brandywine Corridor BOA plan will guide grant writing and public investment for this catalytic area.

46 Corliss Avenue Investigation and Demolition

Demolition has begun on a former industrial site in the Village of Johnson City through the combined efforts of the New York Empire State Development Restore NY Program, Broome County Planning and Economic Development, Town of Union Planning & Economic Development Departments, and the Village of Johnson City. In December 2009, demolition began on 46 Corliss Avenue, a deteriorated industrial building constructed in the 1890's in the Endicott-Johnson industrial spine. Originally housing Marshall Furniture and later the Ozalid Company, the building has sat vacant since 1993.

For the demolition and cleanup of this abandoned industrial property, the Town of Union used \$57,397 of Community Development Block Grant funding to leverage a Restore NY grant (Round II) from NYS totaling \$471,568. To cover the additional costs associated with engineering services, project supervision, and asbestos air monitoring, Broome County allocated \$83,000 of Hotel/Motel tax dollars. An additional \$25,000 for contingency funding was approved by the County.

Emerson Network Power Dedicates New Headquarters in Binghamton



Emerson Network Power, a business of Emerson (NYSE:EMR) and the global leader in enabling Business-Critical Continuity™ dedicated the completion of its 40,000 square-foot headquarters facility in Binghamton's Charles Street Business Park in early December 2009.

"Thanks to state and local government leaders for their support, as well as to general contractor T.J. Madison Construction Inc. of Binghamton and the local workforce "that brought the facility to life," said Bill Fierle, Emerson Network Power President.

Fierle noted that the new corporate headquarters symbolize positive change rooted in a "deep and unwavering confidence in the company's ability to flourish – no matter what is happening in the business and industrial world around us."

The new facility houses general administration, engineering, marketing and manufacturing operations. The Binghamton operation manufactures power quality and surge protection equipment to protect mission-critical operations from disruptive electrical failures.

"This has been a collaborative effort to produce a world-class showcase for Emerson Network Power's best-of-class technologies," Fierle said, "including the industry's most sophisticated research and development laboratory to ensure that all roads lead to Binghamton for the ultimate in power protection."

Emerson Network Power, a business of Emerson (NYSE:EMR), is the global leader in enabling Business-Critical Continuity™ from grid to chip for telecommunication networks, data centers, health care and industrial facilities. Emerson Network Power provides innovative solutions and expertise in areas including AC and DC power and precision cooling systems, embedded computing and power, integrated racks and enclosures, power switching and controls, monitoring, and connectivity. All solutions are supported globally by local Emerson Network Power service technicians.



Local officials join Emerson representatives to cut the ribbon on the new Emerson Network Power Surge Headquarters in the Charles St. Business Park

Greater Binghamton Innovation Center Graduates First Success Story



The Greater Binghamton Innovation Center is marking its first full year of operation and it is celebrating that milestone by graduating its first success story! The high-tech incubator has been home to nearly a dozen start-up businesses since late 2008. One of those tenants, White Knight Imaging, has experienced such explosive activity, that it is moving out to a larger office space in the community.

White Knight's John and Elin Barton have credited the incubator with helping them to take their business to the next level.

The incubator is located at 123 Court St. It is a Broome County initiative aimed at supporting emerging businesses in our community. This project came to fruition because of assistance from both our federal and state representatives. As has been mentioned in previous editions of this newsletter, Senators Clinton (former) and Schumer, secured a \$250,000 grant to assist our community in aiding entrepreneurs and growing our own jobs. The first quarter of a million dollars was used to build out the 1st floor of 123 Court St. into the high-tech incubator.

Broome County was also fortunate to receive an additional \$250,000 economic development grant secured by New York State Senator Thomas Libous. That additional quarter of a million dollars was used to outfit the incubator with furniture and technology as well as underwrite the operating expenses for at least three years.

In addition to four office spaces available at affordable lease rates, there is a large room called a "hothouse" that includes ten cubicles. Those cubicles are leased by start-ups that aren't quite ready to occupy office space or who simply do not have the need for that kind of environment at this stage of their operation.

White Knight's space will be occupied by one of the other tenants who will move into that space leaving one office space available for lease. There are at least 2 other cubicles available for lease as well. The rest of the incubator is occupied!

Incubator Info:

- 4 spaces of various sizes (approx. 250 square feet, 350 square feet, 500 square feet and 550 square feet) available at a lease rate of:
 - \$7 square foot first year

- \$9 square foot second year
- \$11 square foot third year (3 year limit for tenants)
- There are also (10) cubicle spaces available for lease:
 - \$100 first year
 - \$130 second year
 - \$169 third year (3 year limit for tenants)

If anyone is interested in learning about the Greater Binghamton Innovation Center, they should contact Darcy Fauci at 778-2109.

STOC and Binghamton University Present Technology Awards

The New York State Center of Excellence in Small Scale Systems Integration and Packaging (S3IP) at Binghamton University and the Southern Tier Opportunity Coalition (STOC) honored three individuals for promoting economic development in the Southern Tier.

Mark D. Poliks, Director of Research and Development at Endicott Interconnect Technologies was recognized as Technology Leader of the Year for his efforts shaping the technology community through leadership in small-scale systems. Zhihao Yang, Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder of NanoMas Technologies was recognized as Technology Entrepreneur of the Year for his contributions to the development of the technology economy through the formation of new businesses, generation of wealth and exemplifying the risk-taking entrepreneurial spirit. David Gdovin, President of Diamond Visionics, was recognized as Technology Mentor of the Year for his efforts in shaping the technology community through championing the STOC vision as well as by offering his time, expertise and knowledge networks in support of individual technology companies.

Awards were announced at the S3IP Annual Dinner on November 11, 2009. The dinner featured remarks by U.S. Rep. Maurice D. Hinchey (D-N.Y.), Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo and Bahgat Sammakia, S3IP director, who provided a brief overview of current project and activities. Frank Murray, president and chief executive officer of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, provided a keynote address. Sammakia and John Hayek, STOC's executive director, presented the technology awards.



S3IP Director, Bahgat Sammakia (left) and STOC Executive Director John Hayek (right) present the "Technology Mentor" award to David Gdovin (center), Diamond Visionics President.

Regional Entrepreneurship Conference at Binghamton University

The Southern Tier Opportunity Coalition, Binghamton and Cornell Universities and others sponsored a daylong regional Business and Entrepreneurship Conference on November 4th at Binghamton University.

Over 100 people attended the conference which featured:

- The latest technology transfer initiatives from Binghamton and Cornell Universities
- Resources available from both universities for local businesspeople and entrepreneurs
- Important considerations in business planning and intellectual property
- Funding resources for start-up businesses.

The conference featured a number of distinguished regionally and nationally known speakers and panelists from across the Southern Tier. Keynote speakers were Alan Paa, Vice Provost and Executive Director for Technology Transfer and Economic Development at Cornell and Eugene Krentsel, Assistant Vice President for Technology and Innovation Partnerships from Binghamton University. Hari Srihari, Dean of the BU Watson School of Engineering, overviewed resources available to small businesses from the University.

Bill Ritter, Assistant District Director for Upstate NY SCORE and Mark Vallone from Levene Gouldin & Thompson spoke on business planning and intellectual property respectively. Debbie Morello, Dean of Continuing Education at Broome Community College, moderated a panel on business funding featuring regional experts from Greater Binghamton, Ithaca, Elmira and Syracuse.

Susquehanna Heritage Area Management Plan is Amended to Allow for Expansion

The Susquehanna Heritage Area Management Plan Amendment was completed in December of 2009. It builds and expands upon previous planning efforts that have been developed and implemented since the Susquehanna Heritage Area was first recognized by the New York State legislature in 1982.

This plan has been undertaken to further identify, promote, and develop the historic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of an expanded Susquehanna Heritage Area, which is proposed to encompass Broome and Tioga Counties. The Plan Amendment identifies a series of strategies for communities in Broome and Tioga Counties. It provides an enhancement of their unique cultural and natural resources that will guide the implementation of programs and projects which seek to foster economic revitalization and enhance quality of life throughout the region

The primary purpose of the NYS Heritage Area program is to assist local communities in identifying, promoting and developing opportunities for enhancing quality of life through stewardship and promotion of local resources and to support local economic development initiatives. This goal is achieved through the partnership and coordinated activities of a wide range of local and regional organizations with technical support and financial incentives from the state. County Executive, Barbara J. Fiala, was appointed this year to the NYS Heritage Area Advisory Council. The Council advises the Executive and Legislative branch on New York State Heritage Area System program policies.

There will be a state and local approval process that will begin in January for state recognition. An "amendment" to state law is required in order to recognize both Broome and Tioga counties as the expanded boundary beyond the current communities of Binghamton, Johnson City & Endicott. Consultants for the project were Bergmann Associates of Rochester, NY and the project was completely funded through Department of State Qualities Communities Program.

Greater Binghamton Chamber's Seminar

Continued from Page 1

programs, the need for products and services by our local business community and a look at how other gas drilling communities have responded to this issue.

The cost to attend is: \$25 Advance / \$30 Door for Chamber Members; and \$35 Advance / \$40 Door for Non-Members.

In February, the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce is pleased to present an Economic Forecast for 2010, sponsored by M&T Bank on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at the Holiday Inn Arena at 7:30 a.m. Chamber members want to know, "What's next" in our regional economy.

Gary D. Keith, Vice President & Regional Economist from M&T Bank, will deliver his economic forecast based on research and experience in the commercial finance field. He has given insightful forecasts creating a clear picture of current economic trends in Upstate New York, and in particular, the Greater Binghamton area.



A representative from the Greater Binghamton Association of Realtors will close the program with their insight into the local real estate market trends and how this will impact our area in the upcoming year.

The cost to attend is: \$25 Advance / \$27 Door for Chamber Members; and \$35 Advance / \$37 Door for Non-Members.

To register for these program, contact Kathi Murphy @ (607) 772-8860 or kmurphy@greaterbinghamtonchamber.com.

Binghamton University – 2010 Advocacy Initiatives

As the semester comes to a close, Binghamton University welcomes over 1,200 new University advocates who recently registered to be a part of the Think Tank advocacy group. This group now tops 6,200 University supporters, including community members, faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni and friends, who are all committed to helping Binghamton University advance as an institution.

In the upcoming New Year, the University will focus its advocacy efforts on two critical initiatives: securing adequate state support and flexibility, and continuing our efforts to develop a new law school.

SUNY Budget Issues

SUNY is being asked to implement an additional \$90 million dollar reduction and Binghamton University's portion is \$3.3 million. This is the most serious reduction for SUNY in many decades and is the highest proportion cut to a state agency. This reduction comes on top of five years of declining state support and given the state's financial outlook, more cuts may be likely. Although the University administration has taken active steps over the last two years to protect the University's academic offerings, the continued budget reductions have had some adverse consequences, including larger class sizes, fewer class sections, and fewer full-time faculty due to hiring freezes.

While New York State's budget actions represent serious challenges, the University is committed to preserving the high-quality academic experience that students, parents and alumni have come to expect of Binghamton University. The administration is closely examining every aspect of campus operations to maximize efficiency and has instituted both short and long-term approaches to reduce costs and increase revenues in key areas. These initiatives are paying off: scholarship support has grown 17 percent over the past five years and the University's research growth rate is among the highest for universities in New York. Thus the University continues to enhance its research and scholarly activity with increased external support from research grants; and investments in energy-reduction measures continue to help save money while the University reduces its carbon footprint.

Legislation

During the coming months, there will be a renewed push for the state legislature to implement regulatory reforms, which will help the University pursue its goal of becoming the premier public university in the nation. Thanks in part to the support of Binghamton University advocates, the Senate and Assembly will likely review a "New Economy and Innovation Act of 2010" for SUNY doctoral-granting institutions. The proposed legislation seeks to implement many of the reforms recommended by the New York State Commission on Higher Education. As a member of the



Commission, President Lois B. DeFleur has been supportive of SUNY reform efforts, especially those that can be implemented at no cost to taxpayers.

Law School

The University remains steadfast in its efforts to secure the necessary SUNY, state and State Education Department approvals to establish a law school. Positive reports from two external reviewers are expected shortly and the formal proposal for the law school will then be submitted to SUNY and the State Education Department.

While the University is working to meet its challenges, another year of scholarly and academic growth for Binghamton University is anticipated. The University continues to attract the best and brightest students in the state. Test scores of entering students continue to rise and are among the nation's highest for public universities. Faculty break new ground every day with their scholarly contributions and research and apply innovative approaches to student learning. They continue to receive worldwide and national recognition for their research. Scott Craver, for example, an Assistant Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was honored at the White House this fall as one of only 100 recipients of the prestigious Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). Likewise, the staff is among the most creative and dedicated anywhere. For the third consecutive year, Binghamton University has been rated a "Best Buy" by the Fiske Guide to Colleges. And U.S. News and World Report for the 13th consecutive year included Binghamton University among the elite Top 50 of public universities in the nation. Binghamton is also on the publication's list of schools whose students graduate with the least amount of debt.

Be sure to read about some of the University's tremendous accolades and groundbreaking research at the Think Binghamton website (<http://think.binghamton.edu>) where supporters are encouraged to take a minute and sign up to be a part of the Think Tank advocacy group. Think Tank advocates receive e-mails at critical points in time when the University needs their help. By clicking on the links included in the e-mails, advocates can quickly and easily send messages to legislators on behalf of the University. University supporters are also encouraged to submit their stories about Binghamton University through the website so that they can be shared as examples of how the University touches people's lives. These stories will help put a face on the University and will also help build the case for state investment in higher education.

NYS Awards City of Binghamton Nearly 3.5 Million for Economic Development Projects



*Binghamton Mayor Matt Ryan Outlines the Projects
Supported by Restore-Round 3 Awards*

In September, the City learned that it had been awarded \$3.4 million in Restore NY Round 3 grants, which will allow the City to redevelop at least 46 residential and commercial properties citywide.

The City's residential grant totals \$2.2 million, and its commercial grant is \$1.2 million. Together, the projects will leverage more than \$23 million in new investment and support more than 330 well-paying jobs throughout Binghamton.

The City's Round 3 application builds on its Round 1 and 2 grants, which represent the State's largest awards per-capita, and have allowed the City to target more than 70 problem properties.

"Our award-winning program has allowed us to renew our neighborhoods as never before, and our momentum is only building," said Mayor Ryan. "By leveraging local resources, we've already targeted more than 70 blighted properties, and now we'll redevelop 46 more, including 41 residential parcels and five key commercial parcels in the Chenango Street Corridor. The City works with a wide ranging coalition of community partners through the Binghamton Healthy Neighborhoods Collaboration to plan for and implement the Restore projects.

Prospective uses for the Round 3 residential and mixed-use parcels include houses for first-time homebuyers, combinations with adjacent properties, expanded yards, parking lots, green spaces, and areas for commercial development.

The City also will prioritize energy efficiency in the redevelopment process. Deconstruction will take place at as many of the demolition sites as possible, and several of the new construction projects will be Energy Star rated. NYSERDA will assist with costs associated with meeting the Energy Star standards.

The City's \$1.2 million commercial grant will assist with the demolition and rehabilitation of several key commercial properties, many of which are in the Chenango Street Corridor. Through these projects, the City anticipates leveraging \$19 million in additional investment, and supporting more than 50 jobs.

The most significant commercial project is the renovation of the long vacant Midtown Mall located in the heart of the city's downtown business district for residential and commercial use. The Binghamton Economic Development Office worked with Larry Gladstone of Stellar 83 Court, LLC, for more than a year to facilitate the development of apartments with approximately 200 beds on the upper floors, and retail space on the street level and lower floor. Bringing residents and businesses to this downtown anchor will generate millions of dollars in additional local commerce for years to come.

At 199 State Street in one of the city's Art's Districts, Restore 3 will support the renovation of a vacant property to house a Binghamton branch of GrafiQa Creative Services, a marketing firm based in Oneonta. Additional upscale office space for tenants will be available in the first quarter of 2010.

In addition, the City's commercial grant will allow for the demolition of the former bowling alley at 530 State Street, clearing the way for the Salvation Army to rebuild its Binghamton offices and community center on the site. Down the street at 5 W. State, the grant will assist Opportunities for Broome's renovation of a building and the relocation of their administrative offices. Finally the grant included funds for demolition of the former McDonald's property at 10-12 W. State Street to make way for a Save-A-Lot grocery store.

County-wide Code Enforcement Office Feasibility Study

Each of Broome County's 24 Municipalities is responsible for enforcing the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code in that municipality which has individual and varying office structures and strategies for enforcement. A county-wide code enforcement office has the potential to provide improved efficiency and financial savings through streamlined operations and administration, providing a single point of contact for residents and businesses interested in locating in the County, and providing a structure that affords a broader range of expertise and specialization.

Broome County Planning, with the Town of Kirkwood as a co-applicant, has received a \$33,750 grant from the New York State Department of State's Local Government Efficiency Grant Program to develop a County-Wide Code Enforcement Office Feasibility Study. The study will analyze the administrative, fiscal, legal, and political considerations incidental to cooperative code enforcement. This includes analysis of the nature and scope of services and functions to be performed by each local government, the number and qualifications of staff necessary, how personnel and other costs will be shared or apportioned, the collection and distribution of fees, the responsibility for enforcement, and the liabilities of the parties, among others.

Some of the Projects Initiated and Completed in 2009!



Visions Federal Credit Union officials cut the ribbon on the new Visions branch in Johnson City



County Executive Barbara Fiala joins Impress Group representatives at the groundbreaking for their new manufacturing facility in the Broome Corporate Park



Binghamton Mayor Matt Ryan joins other officials and neighborhood representatives at the groundbreaking for the Northside grocery store



George Harvey Justice Building officially rededicated in November following a \$17 million dollar renovation project is finalized



Newman Development Group proposes a new housing complex for downtown Binghamton

